

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
FEDERAL ECONOMIC STATISTICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEMBERSHIP BALANCE PLAN**

- (1) **Name:** Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee
- (2) **Authority:** The Secretary of Commerce (the Secretary), having determined that it is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed by law on the U.S. Department of Commerce (the Department), and with the concurrence of the General Services Administration, established within the Economics and Statistics Administration (ESA) the Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee, in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. App.
- (3) **Mission/Function:** The Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee will advise the Directors of ESA's two statistical agencies, the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) and the U.S Census Bureau (Census), and the Commissioner of the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) on statistical methodology and other technical matters related to the collection, tabulation, and analysis of federal economic statistics.
- (4) **Points of View:** The Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee will consist of approximately 16 members who serve at the pleasure of the Secretary. Members shall be nominated by the Department and appointed by the Secretary, in consultation with the agencies and under the coordination of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs. Committee members shall be professionals in appropriate disciplines, including economists, statisticians, survey methodologists, and behavioral scientists who are prominent experts in their fields, recognized for their scientific, professional, and operational achievements and objectivity. Membership will represent data users with expertise from the public sector, academia, and the private sector. Membership will be chosen to achieve a balanced membership that will meet the needs of the Secretary.
- A. The anticipated distribution of candidates will reflect 1-2 members of each category.
- B. Currently, members are 'Special Government Employees' (SGE) appointees, reflecting 'Individual' membership. SGE membership enables the Secretary to appoint individuals with distinction in academia or diverse technical subject areas.
- (5) **Other Balance Factors:**
- Technical knowledge vs. industry-based experience
  - Geographic diversity
  - Gender
  - Perspective
- (6) **Candidate Identification Process:**
- A. Members shall be nominated by the Department and appointed by the Secretary, in consultation with the agencies and under the coordination of the Under Secretary for

Economic Affairs. A *Federal Register Notice* is published and placed on the FESAC webpage to solicit nominations from the public, as well as notifications to an extensive list of agencies' stakeholders.

- B. The Designated Federal Officer and Committee Management Officer, under the coordination of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs will develop a candidate list for executive evaluation and reviews.
  - C. The resulting top candidates will be contacted for interest and availability. Formal letters of invitation to serve on the Committee are extended by the Secretary. If vacancies occur during the life of the Committee, Under Secretary for Economic Affairs reviews the needs agencies and initiates a new selection process to fill vacant seats as described above.
  - D. Pending needs of the agencies, Members will serve for a three-year term. Members may serve multiple terms only at the discretion of the Secretary, in consultation with the agencies.
  - E. When it becomes necessary to identify new members of the Committee, an evaluation will be made of the current makeup of the Committee's expertise, as well as emerging needs and research, and new members will be identified based on the expertise they will bring to the Committee's discussions.
- (7) **Subcommittee Balance:** The process that will be used to determine advisory committee member balance for the parent Federal advisory committee will be used for any subcommittees that may be created.
- (8) **Other:** Not applicable
- (9) **Date Prepared:** July 12, 2016